

COMET C/1999 H1 (LEE) THE NOSTRADAMUS COMET?

*If a Grand Cross
and total solar
eclipse weren't
enough in August,
a wild-card comet
has now appeared,
perhaps just as
Nostradamus
prophesied.*

Remember those dramatic photos of 20 fragments of Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 crashing into Jupiter during 16–22 July 1994? Well, scientists at the Millennium Group are worried that Comet Lee, a wild-card (non-periodic) comet first discovered by Australian Steven Lee on 16 April 1999, may pass uncomfortably close to Earth, some time starting in mid-August 1999 and continuing through early 2000.

At the very least, they say, Comet Lee may cause solar explosions (coronal mass ejections or CMEs) in our solar system and earthquakes and hurricane-like weather on Earth. At the worst, well, Shoemaker-Levy's comet fragments crashing into Jupiter could be a pictorial warning for Earth if Comet Lee is captured in Earth-Moon orbit.

What has Millennium Group scientists and researchers James B. Ervin, Jim McCanney, Alexey Dmitriev, Gary D. Goodwin, Ray Ward, Hal Blondell, Don Carros and Wayne Moody worried is that Comet Lee's behaviour is defying all predictive models by NASA and other supercomputers.

Independent researcher Colonel James B. Ervin says: "The truth of the matter about [Comet Lee] is that nobody can project its path.. I believe there is ample evidence to suggest that it will pass much closer to Earth than originally anticipated...especially if Comet Lee is hit by a [solar explosion] during its perihelion passage."

Earl L. Crockett, another Millennium Group scientist, says we may already be experiencing the effects of Comet Lee. "I would personally add that it may in fact already be responsible for the very weird actions we have been seeing from the Sun over the last several months; i.e., the appearance that something has been 'pulling' energetic charges away from the Sun in the opposite direction of Earth, producing large CMEs/[solar]flares that for the most part have had little electromagnetic effect here on Earth."

Scientist Jim McCanney adds: "[Comet Lee] is truly a lawless comet, and with the erratic brightening happening it is certain to be far off course every day. This could be a doozy! August is now looking like a time for the first possible trouble."

Disturbingly, scientist Ray Ward says tight military security has been mounted around official tracking of Comet Lee, impeding public knowledge and scientific study.

"The word is ultra-tight security on Comet Lee. The military side of NASA is running this show now, so forget any type of cooperation." Ward adds: "Too bad NASA has destroyed the [Comet] Hale-Bopp data that we could really use to help provide the correction factors needed on Comet Lee."

Comet Hale-Bopp's closest Earth approach was on 22 March 1997.

According to McCanney, planetary alignments in mid-August and September 1999 may make Comet Lee particularly hazardous.

"The big key here is the upcoming planetary alignments, and that it will be the electrical plasma alignments, not gravity, that will be the potential harm-givers. Most critical is the September 6, 1999 alignment of Venus and Earth with the new Moon. I have even considered that if the comet orbit is 'hooked' enough, we could see a close enough encounter that the Earth and Moon could capture this thing as a permanent new member of the Earth-Moon system—or worse: that it would flip out into a future collision course with us again and again, like Venus did to Mars some 4,000 years ago."

Researchers have raised concern about the potentially catastrophic effects of two other space events in mid-August 1999, which may be compounded by Comet Lee. One is the solar eclipse of 11 August 1999. The other is the 18 August Earth flyby of the Cassini spacecraft, carrying 72 pounds of plutonium—equivalent to over 50 per cent of all the radiation released since the beginning of nuclear testing. (Source: *EcoNews Service*)

Contributions from
• EcoNews Service
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C/1999 H1 (LEE): THE NOSTRADAMUS COMET?

by Colonel James B. Ervin, The Millennium Group

Roughly seven months ago, I embarked on a personal journey of discovery and investigative research to determine whether or not there might be any real substance to a new interpretation of Nostradamus' prophecies by author Stefan Paulus.

Paulus's book, *Nostradamus 1999: Who Will Survive?*, very credibly explores the possibility that an Earth-threatening comet will be discovered during the total solar eclipse of 11 August 1999. Consequently, this possibility so deeply disturbed me that I began systematically to investigate the obvious question: Is there a comet which correlates to the criteria specified in Paulus's new interpretation of the Nostradamus prophecies?

My first three months of research had me firmly convinced that there was not a comet capable of fulfilling the Nostradamus prophecies. Then, in mid-April, came the advent of Comet C/1999 H1 (Lee). Here is some of what I have learned concerning the possibility that this comet might be capable of fulfilling Nostradamus' only specifically dated prophecy: Century 10, Quatrain 72:

The year 1999, the seventh month, From the sky will come a great King of Terror. Resuscitating the great King of the Mongols. Before and after Mars to reign happily.

The above quatrain is now being interpreted by Paulus and a host of Nostradamus scholars as meaning that a monstrous comet will pass near the Earth some time between July and September

1999, awakening a Genghis Khan-type warrior. Both before and after the comet passes, war will reign happily.

Is the seventh month July or September? During Nostradamus' day, both the Gregorian and Julian calendars were in use. Therefore, it seems reasonable to conclude that the seventh month referred to could be July or September. However, it should be noted the word "seventh" used in the above prophecy does read *sept* in the original French. Consequently, most Nostradamus scholars now conclude that "the seventh month" must refer to September.

So, what might happen when Comet Lee passes by the Earth?

The year 1999, the seventh month, From the sky will come a great King of Terror. Resuscitating the great King of the Mongols. Before and after Mars to reign happily.

— Nostradamus, Century 10, Quatrain 72

According to various interpretations of the Nostradamus prophecies, the tail of this comet contains a hidden fragment from a comet, asteroid or meteor. When the comet passes by the Earth in September, the fragment will fall out of the comet's tail and slam into the Mid-Atlantic Rise, creating a massive 2,000/3,000-foot tidal wave. This tsunami will inundate all the coastal areas of North America and Europe, as well as the Pacific Rim area and sub-continents.

For reference links, visit:

- <http://www1.tpgi.com.au/users/tps-seti/spacegd7.html>
- <http://impact.arc.nasa.gov/>
- <http://sherpa.sandia.gov/planet-impact/asteroid/>

Total Solar Eclipse

When will the comet's close approach be noticed? Note this Nostradamus prophecy from Century 3, Quatrain 34:

When the eclipse of the Sun will then be, In broad daylight the monster will be seen: Everyone will differ on the interpretation, High price unguarded, none will have prepared.



Comet C/1999 H1 (Lee). Photograph copyright © 1999 Gordon Garradd, 3 June 1999. Image taken with a 45-cm Newtonian (and AP7 CCD from the Planetary Society Gene Shoemaker NEO observing grant) from Loomberah, New South Wales, Australia.

There will be a total solar eclipse on 11 August 1999. The line of totality of this eclipse begins at dawn at a point located about 700 kilometres to the east of New York City, then follows the North Atlantic until briefly touching land in the south of England and directing itself soon towards France (Nostradamus' homeland).

It crosses at Normandy, passing by just 30 kilometres to the north of Paris at 10.23 UT, leaving France via Strasbourg. Next, it crosses the south of Belgium, Luxembourg and the south of Germany (Stuttgart, Munich); moves through Austria (Salzburg and Graz are in the line of totality), Hungary and then Romania, where the eclipse arrives at its maximum duration of 2 minutes and 23 seconds at 11.03 UT, shortly before reaching Bucharest.

It leaves European land at Bulgaria, entering into the Black Sea. It touches the northwest coast of Turkey at the city

of Cide, and continues by way of Asia, crossing the deserts of Iraq, Iran and Pakistan to finish at local dusk in India.

Comet Lee's Ephemeris

When a comet's ephemeris (orbital trajectory) takes it behind the Sun, occultation (as it is known) by the Sun's coronal disc and solar glare will hide it from view. Thus, when a comet is travelling behind the Sun, it cannot be seen from the Earth (or a satellite) until it has fully completed its perihelion, its closest approach to the Sun, and then emerges from the solar glare.

When a comet which has exited occultation but is still hidden from Earth view by solar glare, some satellites and ground-based telescopes, such as SOHO LASCO, may be able to observe the comet, especially, during a total solar eclipse.

The newly discovered long-period comet C/1999 H1 (Lee) has many Nostradamus scholars worried because its orbital ephemeris closely matches several key prophecies.

The following is a posting of the C/1999 H1 (Lee) ephemeris, courtesy of <<http://encke.jpl.nasa.gov/RecentObs.html>>:

"C/1999 H1 (Lee): IAU Circular 7144 (April 16, 1999) reports the visual discovery of a comet by Steven Lee on April 16.5 UT. The comet was discovered at a star party near Mudgee, New South Wales. The comet is described as 9th magnitude, diffuse and no tail. Gordon Garrard (Loomberah, Australia) gives $m_2=13.9-14.2$. He states that the comet has a 3' coma and is slightly elongated towards the north.

"Orbital elements and an ephemeris published in MPEC H06 and IAU C7147 (both April 19, 1999) indicate that this is a long-period comet with a perihelion date of July 11.4 at a distance of 0.71 AU. Unfortunately, the comet will be on the other side of the Sun and solar conjunction (thus, not visible) around perihelion. The comet will move rapidly north in May and it will brighten to $m_1=7.0-7.5$ before being lost in solar glare. The comet should be visible from both hemispheres in the evening sky by mid-May. (Currently, the comet is only visible from the southern hemisphere.)

"After perihelion, the comet will emerge from the solar glare in mid-August at $m_1\sim 7.5-8.0$ to become a northern hemisphere circumpolar object in September (dec reaching nearly +60). The comet will slowly fade."

If you visit the Astroarts website at <<http://www.astroarts.com/>>, go to the 1999 Comets page and find C/1998 H1 (Lee) (the comet is mislabelled). Then run the orbital simulator from 11 August through 7 November 1999 from a variety of declination angles and aspects.

As you do so, you will note that this comet's simulated ephemeris has it in a high solar (northern) passage over the Earth around 6-7 November.

This, of course, begs several questions, not the least of which are:

1. Why isn't this comet's close passage being reported in the media?
2. What happens if the comet's orbital ephemeris is altered by an unanticipated solar event?

The Cancer Zodiacal Connection

Comet C/1999 H1 (Lee) was discovered coming from the direction of Cancer. Again, just as prophesied by Nostradamus, this time in Century 6, Quatrain 6:

*There will appear towards the North, Not far from Cancer
the bearded star: Susa, Siena, Bæotia, Eretria, The great
one of Rome will die, the night over.*

Comet Lee began its passage through Cancer on 14 June 1999. For more information, refer to the following link pages:

- <http://www.drdaile.com/comets/> (The Dr Dale site has an excellent illustration of the Cancer zodiacal connection.)
- <http://encke.jpl.nasa.gov/>
- <http://encke.jpl.nasa.gov/images/99H1/1999H1finder.gif>

Solar Maximum

There are other factors which might influence the orbit of C/1999 H1 (Lee) and bring it much closer to Earth. Our Sun is now entering into "solar max". During this time, there are numerous solar flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs). Since these events can and do alter the orbit of comets, C/1999 H1 (Lee) could receive an aft (direct) hit by a CME, solar flare or cometary fragment. Such an ephemeral alteration could very easily bring this comet significantly closer to Earth.



Nostradamus (Michel de Nostredame)
1503-1566

For more on how solar flares and CMEs alter a comet's orbit, visit <www.nasm.edu/ceps/ETP/COMETS/comet_orbits.html>. See "A Sample Calculation for the Circularization of an Orbit" for another viewpoint of orbital dynamics predictions.

Comets travel in highly elliptical orbits around the Sun with an average period (time between returns) of 40,000 years. Some comets, called "short-period comets", return near the Sun every few years, and travel no further from the Sun than the orbit of Jupiter. Other comets have periods of several millions of years, with orbits that take them far beyond the orbit of Pluto.

Comets, like the planets, travel in regular orbits. However, some comets occasionally speed up or slow down in their orbits. Solar radiation causes ice to evaporate on the sunward side of the nucleus. Molecules released by the evaporation stream away from the comet and generate a jet-type reaction that pushes the comet away from the Sun and slows it down. If the nucleus is rotating, the force may be in another direction and cause it to speed up.

More Nostradamus Prophecies

Other Nostradamus prophecies are relevant to this scenario, such as these ones, extracted from Paulus' book:

• Century 5, Quatrain 32:

Where all good is, everything right with the Sun and the Moon, Is abundant, its ruin approaches: From the sky it advances to vary your fortune, In the same state as the seventh rock.



Comet C/1999 H1 (Lee). Photographed by Gerald Rhemann and Franz Kersche using a 6-inch f/8.3 Astrophysics Refractor on 18 May 1999.

Two other space events in mid-August 1999 may be compounded by Comet Lee: the solar eclipse of 11 August 1999, and the 18 August Earth flyby of the Cassini spacecraft, carrying 72 pounds of plutonium ...

• Century 2, Quatrain 46:

After great trouble for mankind a greater one prepared, The grand mover the centuries renews: Rain, blood, milk, famine, iron and pestilence, In the sky fire seen, a long spark running.

• Century 2, Quatrain 41:

The great star for seven days will burn, The cloud will cause two suns to appear: The big mastiff all night will howl, When the pontiff changes countries.

• Century 2, Quatrain 43:

During the bearded star's appearance, Three great princes will be made enemies: Hit from the sky, peace earth trembling, Pau, Tiber over - flowing, serpent on the bank placed.

• Century 1, Quatrain 69:

The great mountain round of seven stadia, Afterwards peace [the comet's hidden object?], war, famine, flood: It will roll far away, sinking great countries, Even antiquities, and great foundation.

So, there you have it. The Nostradamus scenario does look quite plausible.

As far as I know, the Nostradamus prophecies say absolutely nothing about the actual proximity of "the Comet" to Earth during its passage. This fact alone warrants that C/1999 H1 (Lee) must be monitored as a viable "Nostradamus Comet candidate" until such time as it can be demonstrably proved that this comet is *not* a threat. Why? Because this is the only *current* comet whose orbital elements present a close northern passage over the Earth. And a close northern ecliptic track does seem required of the "Nostradamus Comet" if it is to be seen in France and the European hemisphere on 11 August 1999. Not to mention the fact that it seems highly unlikely that a southern ecliptic comet could eject a cometary fragment, meteor or asteroid from its tail onto the Mid-Atlantic Rise in late September or early October, as any discharged element would be prone towards remaining in the southern ecliptic orbital plane.

The Nostradamus prophecies seem to indicate that the comet in question must originate from the southern ecliptic plane, and then take a northwestern track around the Sun during its perihelion, where its orbit will be invisible due to occultation and solar glare until early August 1999. Comet C/1999 H1 (Lee), it seems, does just exactly that.

(Source: The Millennium Group, an independent group of scientists and researchers organised "to create an unbiased outlet for scientific research and critical thinking". The group's research and discussions on Comet Lee can be found at website <www.millennn.com>)